



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

PRESS ADVISORY AND CONFERENCE

JAMES B. COMEY, THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, AND MEMBERS OF THE EL DORADO TASK FORCE, WHICH SPECIALIZES IN INVESTIGATING MONEY LAUNDERING, WILL HOLD A JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE AT 1 P.M. TODAY (THURSDAY, JUNE 5) TO ANNOUNCE THE ARREST OF 11 MEMBERS OF NEW YORK'S JEWELRY DISTRICT ON CHARGES THEY TOOK CASH FOR BULK GOLD, GOLD ITEMS AND DIAMONDS THEY BELIEVED WERE BEING SMUGGLED TO DRUG TRAFFICKERS IN SOUTH AMERICA. ON DISPLAY WILL BE ITEMS INCLUDING DIAMONDS AND GOLD MOLDED INTO WRENCHES, BELTS, BELT BUCKLES AND ELECTRIC LIGHT SWITCH PLATES.

DATE: JUNE 5, 2003
TIME: 1:00 P.M.
PLACE: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
1 ST. ANDREW'S PLAZA, IN THE LOBBY
NEW YORK CITY
CONTACT: MARVIN SMILON, HERBERT HADAD, MICHAEL KULSTAD
(212) 637-2600

NOTE: PRESS CREDENTIALS ARE MANDATORY.

NO ONE CAN BE ADMITTED WITHOUT PROPER I.D.

PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 1:00 P.M. PLEASE
ARRIVE EARLY TO PERMIT CLEARANCE THROUGH SECURITY.